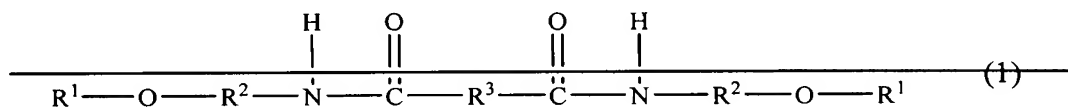


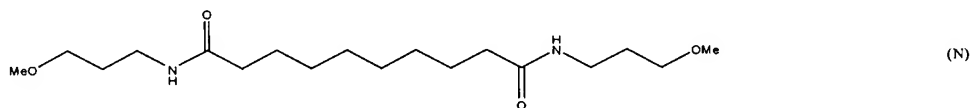
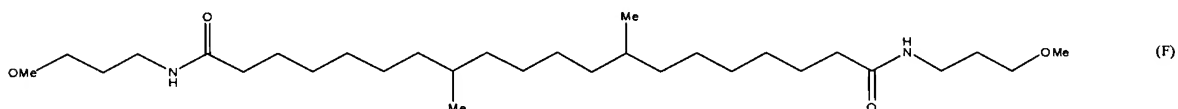
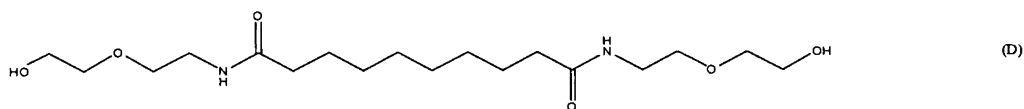
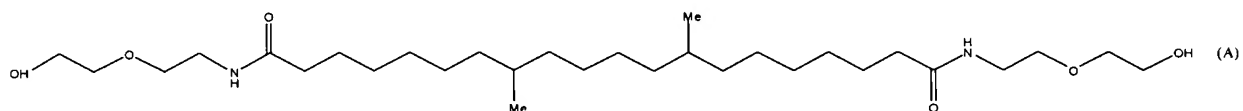
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A hair styling composition comprising the following ingredients (A) and (B): (A) a film-forming polymer; and (B) a diamide compound represented by the following formula (1):



wherein R^1 represents a linear or branched C_{1-12} hydrocarbon group which may be substituted by one or more hydroxyl groups and/or alkoxy groups, R^2 represents a linear or branched, divalent C_{1-5} hydrocarbon group, and R^3 represents a linear or branched, divalent C_{1-22} hydrocarbon group



Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1 wherein said film-forming polymer is anionic and is at least one selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl ester of methyl vinyl ether/maleic acid copolymers, acrylic acid/ethyl acrylate/N-(t-butyl)acrylamide copolymers, octylacrylamide/acrylic acid copolymers, vinyl acetate/crotonic acid copolymers, vinyl acetate/crotonic acid/vinyl neodecanoate copolymers, vinyl acetate/crotonic acid/vinyl propionate copolymers, water-dispersible polyesters, acrylate/methacrylate/acrylic acid/methacrylic acid copolymers, alkyl acrylate/diacetone acrylamide copolymers AMP, vinyl alcohol/itaconic acid copolymers, polyacrylic acids, carageenan, and xanthan gum.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1 wherein said film-forming polymer is amphoteric and is at least one selected from the group consisting of dimethyldiallylammonium chloride/acrylamide/acrylic acid copolymers, (meth)acrylethylbetaine/alkyl(meth)acrylate copolymers; and alkyl acrylate/butylaminoethyl methacrylate/octyl acrylate amide copolymers.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1 wherein said film-forming polymer is cationic and is at least one selected from the group consisting of polydimethyldiallylammonium chloride, acrylamidopropyltrimethylammonium chloride/acrylate copolymers, acrylamide/dimethyldiallylammonium chloride copolymers, t-butylacrylamide/ethyl acrylate/dimethylaminopropylacrylamide/methoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymers, t-butylacrylamide/dimethylacrylamide/dimethylaminopropylacrylamide/methoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymers, methylvinylimidazolium chloride/vinylpyrrolidone

copolymers, vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminopropylmethacrylamide copolymers, diethyl sulfates of vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate copolymers, vinyl alcohol/dimethylaminopropylmethacrylamide copolymers, vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate copolymers, vinylpyrrolidone/alkylaminoacrylate/vinylcaprolactam copolymers, hydroxyethylcellulose/dimethyldiallylammonium chloride copolymers, hydroxyethylcellulose/2-hydropropyltrimethylammonium chloride copolymers, guar hydroxypropyltrimonium chloride, and aminoalkyldimethylpolysiloxane/polyethylenoxazoline copolymers.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1 wherein said film-forming polymer is non-ionic and is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinyl alcohol, vinyl alcohol/vinylamine copolymers, vinylpyrrolidone/vinyl acetate copolymers, acrylate/vinylpyrrolidone copolymers, polyethylene glycol of high polymerization degree, guar gum, pullulan, hydroxypropyl chitosan, and chitosan-dl-pyrrolidonecarboxylate salts.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said film-forming polymer is present in an amount of from 0.05 to 30 wt. % in terms of solids based on the whole component.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said diamine component (B) is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 20 wt. % based on the whole composition.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, further comprising a protein.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 9, wherein said protein is at least one selected from the group consisting of keratin, elastine, collagen, lactoferrin, casein, $\alpha(\beta)$ -lactoalbumin, globulins, ovalbumin, silk protein and hydrolysates thereof, proteins extracted from wheat, proteins extracted from malt, proteins extracted from oat, proteins extracted from barley, proteins extracted from corn, proteins extracted from rice, proteins extracted from soybeans, proteins extracted from broad beans, proteins extracted from lupine seeds, proteins extracted from potatoes, proteins extracted from apricot kernels, and hydrolysates thereof.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 9, wherein said protein is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 5 wt. % based on the whole composition.

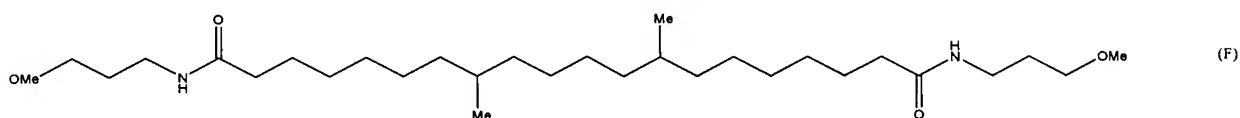
Claim 12 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, further comprising a ceramide.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 12, wherein said ceramide is at least one selected from the group consisting of N-acylated sphingosines, N-acylated phytosphingosines and N-acylated dihydrosphingosines.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 13, wherein said ceramide is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 5 wt. % based on the whole composition.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, further comprising at least one silicone derivative.

Claim 16 (new) The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said diamide compound is of the formula:



Claim 17 (new) The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said film-forming polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of polydimethyldiallyammonium chloride, acrylamide/dimethyldiallyammonium chloride copolymer, hydroxyethylcellulose/dimethyldiallyammonium chloride copolymer and a mixture thereof.

Claim 18 (new) The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said film-forming polymer is an acrylamide/dimethyldiallyammonium chloride copolymer.

Claim 19 (new) The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said film-forming polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of acrylamide/alkyl acrylate/methoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer, vinylpyrrolidone/N,N-

dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate copolymer diethylsulfate and
acrylamide/dimethyldiallylammonium chloride copolymer.

Claim 20 (new) The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said film-forming polymer is vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate copolymer.